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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

JAMES MARSHALL OATHOUT

CASE NO: SS-2945

APPLICATION NO.: 09/467,168

GROUP ART UNIT: 1771

FILED: 12/20/99

EXAMINER: J. BEFUMO

FOR: NONWOVEN FABRICS FOR WIPING APPLICATIONS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
JAN 15 2002
JC 1700

Sir:

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated July 31, 2001.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

1 (amended). A method of using a nonwoven fabric for wiping in Class 10 or cleaner cleanrooms as determined by FED-STD-209E, wherein the fabric is comprised of fibers selected from the group consisting of polyester, lyocell, and blends of polyester with lyocell, comprising the steps of
contacting with the nonwoven fabric a quantity of liquid present on a surface,

removing from the surface by wiping with the nonwoven fabric at least a portion of the quantity of the liquid and wherein the surface from which the liquid was removed has a cleanliness of at least Class 10 as determined by FED-STD-209E.

2 (amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the fabric has a dynamic wiping efficiency of at least 89% when the quantity of the liquid is at a challenge volume of 10 milliliters.

3 (amended). The method of claim 1, wherein the fabric has a dynamic wiping efficiency of at least 70% when the quantity of the liquid is at a challenge volume representing 130% of the sorptive capacity of the fabric.